

which transcription unit further comprises a polynucleotide response element responsive to a nucleus to cytoplasm transport factor.

8. (AMENDED) The retroviral vector particle according to claim 1, wherein the 5' long terminal repeat (LTR) of the provirus comprises HIV [U5] U3 and R regions or functional portions thereof having Tat inducible promoter activity, in place of the 5' LTR promoter function of the retrovirus on which the vector particle is based.

13. (AMENDED) A retroviral vector particle production system comprising a host cell transfected with the DNA construct according to claim 10, said system wherein said system produces [capable of producing] retroviral vector particles according to claim 1.

15. (AMENDED) [The use of a retroviral vector according to claim 1 for gene therapy for infection of transduction of a target cell] A method for inserting a selected gene into a target cell, the method comprising: contacting the target cell with the retroviral vector according to claim 1.

16. (AMENDED) The target cells resulting from the method according to claim 15.

17. (NEW) A retroviral vector particle comprising a packagable RNA genome wherein, when in the form of a DNA provirus, the retroviral vector is inserted into a target cell genome, said RNA genome carrying sequences which provide in the DNA provirus at least one selected gene capable of being expressed in the target cell and located within an inefficiently spliced intron in a transcription unit of the provirus, which transcription unit further comprises a polynucleotide response element responsive to a nucleus to cytoplasm transport factor.

18. (NEW) The retroviral vector particle of claim 17, wherein the polynucleotide response element comprises a Rev response element (RRE), the nucleus to cytoplasm transport factor comprises Rev, and the inefficiently expressed intron comprises a MLV splice donor site and an HIV envelope gene 3' splice site.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are currently pending. Support for the amendment to claim 15 can be found in the specification at page 11, lines 8-16. Support for claims 17 and 18 can be found in the